

Claim Amendments

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Please amend "*Claims*" to "We claim:"

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

7. A method of providing a stairlift installation on a staircase having a first step having a level above a floor from which the staircase extends, comprising: providing a rail having a lower end terminated substantially on the first step and an upper end; providing a carriage mounted on the rail for movement there-along; providing a footrest mounted on the carriage for displacement with the carriage; and constructing and arranging the rail and the carriage to ensure that, when the carriage is at a lower most position on the rail, the footrest is positioned below the first step level.
8. A stairlift for use on a staircase having a first step having a level above a floor from which the staircase extends, the stairlift comprising: a rail having a lower end fixed to the first step and an upper end; a carriage mounted on the rail for movement there-along; and a footrest mounted on the carriage for displacement with the carriage; the rail and carriage being constructed and arranged such that, when the carriage is at a lower most position on the rail, the footrest is positioned below the first step level.
9. The stairlift of claim 8, in which the rail has a main section arranged at the angle of the stairway, and a lower section extending from the main section which is angled downwardly with respect to the main section.
10. The stairlift of claim 9, in which the lower section is substantially vertical.
11. The stairlift of claim 8, in which the rail comprises a main section and a lower section arranged at an angle to the main section.
12. The rail of claim 11, in which the rail comprises a single longitudinal member.